

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for allowing claims 1-3 and 5-31.

Applicants also acknowledge receipt of the fully initialed Form 1449, which was initially submitted with an Information Disclosure Statement of May 8, 2001.

With this Amendment, editorial revisions have been made to claims 6, 9, and 19 to correct antecedent basis issues and grammatical errors. No new matter has been added. These amendments do not affect the scope of the claims. Therefore, no additional search or examination is necessitated by the amendments, nor is any substantial amount of additional work required on the part of the Patent Office or the Examiner.

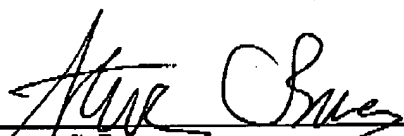
The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' attorneys, at the below-listed telephone number, if there are any questions regarding this communication.

Respectfully submitted,



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